

**Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners  
April 21, 2004**

**Teleconference Minutes**

A teleconference for the Board of Medical Examiners was held at 3:00 p.m. in the Cumberland Room located on the First Floor of the Cordell Hull State Office Building on April 21, 2004.

**Members in attendance electronically:** Dr. Mitchell Mutter and Ms. Mary Johnson

**Member in attendance:** Dr. Barbara Engelhardt

**Staff Present:** Rosemarie Otto, Executive Director;  
Robert J. Kraemer, Jr., General Counsel;  
Sandra Powell, Administrator,  
Marsha Arnold, Unit Manager,  
Mr. Harry Weddle, Office of General Counsel

A roll call was held to determine if each participant could hear the response of the other. Ms. Arnold stated the meeting was being held to discuss summarily suspending the medical license of Dr. William Stephen Long. Ms. Johnson made a motion to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically and Dr. Mutter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to proceed to conduct the meeting electronically by determining that the matter to be discussed met the following requirements: The subject matter required timely action, the physical presence of all members was not possible considering the period of time required for action, and the participation by some or all of the members of the board by electronic or other means was necessary. Dr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Kraemer addressed the Board saying the state must prove that the health, safety and welfare of the public was in immediate jeopardy before Dr. Long's license could be summarily suspended. He then asked the members to elect a chair for the proceeding. Ms. Johnson made a motion and Dr. Mutter seconded that Dr. Engelhardt chair the meeting. A roll call vote was held to accept the motion and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Weddle, attorney for the state, asked each board member if they had any prior knowledge of the proceedings about to be addressed. All members stated they had not. All participants were asked to identify themselves each time they spoke.

Mr. Weddle made an opening statement and presented two witnesses supporting the state's request. The state's witnesses testified that Dr. Long had begun to display behaviors characteristic of someone abusing narcotic pain medicine. Further, the testimony showed that Dr. Long had

become abusive to colleagues, staff and patients and was known to carry a weapon while seeing patients. After Mr. Weddle rested the state's proof, Dr. Engelhardt made a motion to summarily suspend Dr. Long's license and Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote adopted the motion unanimously.

Dr. Engelhardt stated the suspension was made to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Tennessee.

These minutes were ratified by the Board on May 18, 2004.

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